

HONORING ALMA MATILDA WALTERS ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Alma Matilda Walters on the occasion of her 100th birthday, which will take place next week on February 22nd.

Mrs. Walters was born on February 22, 1903, in Palmetto Point, St. Kitts, British West Indies. She immigrated to the United States in her early teens and like so many immigrants of that era, she entered the U.S. through Ellis Island. Mrs. Walters eventually settled in Jersey City, New Jersey, married and raised her first five children (Delores, Irene, Marjorie, Florence and John) there. Her first marriage ended in divorce and she was forced to raise her children as "a single mother" well before the phrase became a part of today's popular culture. Mrs. Walters did so while working as a church assistant and domestic worker to the Lerner family, the owners of the Lerner clothing store chain.

Mrs. Walters worked as a nurse's aide at Community Hospital in Brooklyn's Flatbush neighborhood for many years. She was an active member of Local 1199 and participated in union activities during her working years as well as after her retirement in 1977. She was also an active member of the Miller Avenue Block Association and a life-long Democrat.

Later in life, she met and married M/Sgt. Ulysses Walters. The Walters traveled throughout the United States and lived in Texas, Oklahoma and Georgia before returning to Brooklyn, New York in 1963. Together, they adopted a son, Frank Edward. Mrs. Walters' husband, Ulysses, died in 1975.

Mrs. Walters resided at 399 Miller Avenue in the East New York section of Brooklyn from 1964 until the spring of 2000 when she suffered a hip fracture and needed extensive nursing care. She is currently residing at the Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Mrs. Alma Matilda Walters currently has 96 direct descendants who are alive. This number includes six generations. She is an outstanding example of a woman who came to America to improve her own life and contributed in many ways to the success of her family, children and community. She struggled and endured during some of the most difficult times in our history. Although she only had the equivalent of an eighth grade education, she always inspired each of her children to be the best at whatever they chose to do in life.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lifetime achievements of this remarkable woman, Mrs. Alma Matilda Walters, as she celebrates her 100th birthday on February 22, 2003.

CALVERT TROJANS WIN 2002 TEXAS BOWL; SIX-MAN FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the 2002 Calvert High School Trojan

six-man football team upon winning Calvert's first Texas State football title in school history!

Team members Herbert Kinney, Darius Smith, Chris Ford, Greg Ford, Sammy Wells, Deuantay Green, Torre Grimes, Joske Bowen, Tijon Green, Brandon Stewart, Brian Ford, Randall Green, Jay Green, Lionel Melton, James Ashley, Tranquille Kinney, Corey Gibson, Mario Smith, and Dekesselar Ford provided a natural well spring of notable Calvert championship athletic talent, the likes of which has not been seen since National Baseball Hall of Fame inductees and half-brothers Rube and Bill Foster.

Head Coach and Trojan alumnus Coylin Grimes provided the unflappable leadership and football know-how necessary to mold this outstanding group of players into an unstoppable force and an unbeaten team (14-0). Upon realizing his team's championship ambitions last December way out in San Angelo, Coach Grimes remarked, "This feels great. The kids deserved it; the city of Calvert deserved it. It's just a great time to be a Calvert Trojan fan." You did it, Coach, and we're all proud of you and your work in guiding this outstanding group of young and talented athletes towards achieving their highest goals for the 2002 football season. The lessons of determination, concentration, and dedication, along with the rewards attending these lessons will not be forgotten, and will be shared by every Trojan athlete and scholar for all time. We also congratulate assistant coach Randy Boley, team managers Kieron Council, Kasey Burnett, and Javion Council, whose dedication to the success of the 2002 Trojan six-man football team should also be honored.

The Trojans scored all 51 of their points in the final half of 2002 championship play, stunning the Sanderson Eagles who went into the locker room at the half up 32-0. The 4,000 football fans on hand at San Angelo's Bobcat Stadium were treated to a 50-yard score on the Trojan's final possession of the game by playmaker Darius Smith. Darius, who finished the game with 206 yards rushing, 88 yards receiving, and five touchdowns, caught a short pass on a flare route, broke two tackles, and took the ball over the goal line with less than a minute remaining in regulation to bring the Championship home to Calvert, 51-46. Congratulations to the Calvert High School football team and to their fans, friends and families in Calvert, Texas and throughout the country!

HONORING MEDAL OF VALOR RECIPIENTS: SERGEANT JOE PEDROZA, DEPUTY MATTHEW LUTHER, DEPUTY OSCAR LEON, DEPUTY PHILLIP FARLEY, OFFICER TERESA NAUGLE-DUDEK AND OFFICER ERNIE SANCHEZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the courageous efforts of the men and women in law enforcement. These individuals risk their lives each day in fighting crime and keeping our communities safe. Tonight, I honor four brave members of the Monterey County Sheriff's Department and two members of the Salinas Police Department that

have been awarded a Medal of Valor by the Monterey County Peace Officer's Association for their dedicated service to the County of Monterey.

On December 29, 2001, Monterey County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a call about a suspicious vehicle that may have been involved in the sale of stolen property. Deputy Matthew Luther determined the vehicle was stolen and also realized that it was parked at a residence where known felons took refuge.

Additional units arrived and surrounded the location: Deputy Luther and Deputy Phillip Farley covered the rear of the home, while Deputy Oscar Leon covered the front. Sergeant Joe Pedroza took the exterior perimeter.

A suspect's desperate efforts to flee were thwarted by Deputy Farley. Trying another exit, the suspect encountered Deputy Leon and began shooting. Deputy Leon returned fire at almost point blank range. Shortly thereafter, the suspect attempted to escape by jumping off the front porch of the residence and tried to climb into a tree above Deputy Luther. The suspect, still in possession of his handgun was disabled by Deputy Luther's return fire. After securing the suspect, two additional co-conspirators were located inside the house and taken into custody.

Throughout this quick encounter, each deputy employed his skills, training, and instincts—all of which culminated in the securing of the suspect and the crime scene. The encounter was not over after the suspect was shot and disabled. All the deputies involved maintained their focus, worked in unison and continued to react to each threat as it arose. The above Sheriff's Deputies were confronted with a life and death situation in which, a murder suspect attempted to gain his freedom by shooting his gun at them. In doing so, they were able to apprehend the suspect without injuries to the deputies involved.

Sergeant Joe Pedroza, Deputy Matthew Luther, Deputy Oscar Leon, and Deputy Phillip Farley were awarded this Medal of Valor on April 17, 2002.

On the evening of January 15, 2002, the Salinas Fire Department and the Salinas Police Department were dispatched to a structure fire at the Acosta Plaza apartment complex.

Officer Ernie Sanchez and Officer Teresa Naugle-Dudek arrived before any fire units and determined that the occupants of apartment #2, which was fully engulfed, were safe and accounted for. In speaking with the residents, the two officers learned that the occupants of apartment #1 had not been seen outside.

When Officer Sanchez knocked on the door and got no response, he forced the locked door. When Officer Sanchez and Officer Naugle-Dudek entered the premises, they found the apartment full of thick, dark smoke. Without breathing apparatus or concern for their personal safety, they located three individuals asleep in an upstairs bedroom. Officer Sanchez and Officer Naugle-Dudek evacuated the residents and had the persons evaluated by medical personnel at the scene.

Officer Sanchez kept the family with him until he could make arrangements with relatives for their lodging. Officer Naugle-Dudek assisted the other displaced residents in securing temporary housing in the complex, until their units could be declared structurally safe to inhabit.

There is little doubt that both their quick actions averted a potentially deadly situation.